ya-pandoc-template

Yet Another Pandoc Template - a very simple system for quick cross-format Pandoc translation

What is this even?

It's just a Makefile built around the amazing Pandoc document converter that transforms all Markdown (`.md` filetype) files in the current directory into one of several *stylized* document formats, customized using Pandoc's support for custom templates. This includes

- -> stylized LaTeX Beamer presentations (via `templates/custom.beamer`),
- -> stylized LaTeX manuscripts (via `templates/custom.latex`),
- -> stylized double-column LaTeX manuscripts (via `templates/custom-double.latex`), and
- -> stylized HTML presentations using reveal.js (via arguments to Pandoc)

Installation

1. Install the necessary software:
    - Install Pandoc
    - Install the Pandoc extension pandoc-citeproc (TODO this may not be necessary?)
    - Install LaTeX if you don't have it already. Some ways to get it include TeX Live and MiKTeX.
    - Install GNU Make if you don't have it already.
        - Linux likely already has it installed. For OS X you might have to install Xcode Command Line Tools from Apple's developer site. For Windows, installing Make as part of the Cygwin environment is probably the easiest way to get it.
    - Install the reveal.js library into a folder at `$HOME/.pandoc/revealjs`. This may not be necessary, but in the past, I couldn't get reveal.js to be used out of the box.
2. Clone a copy of this repo, e.g.

    git clone https://github.com/asoplata/ya-pandoc-template.git
3. Copy the `templates` folder to your `$HOME/.pandoc` folder.
4. Copy the `Makefile` file to the same folder that contains your Markdown files. Note that you will have to do this for every project you want to use these templates in... but that means you now have a consistent, easy, and reproducible way to build all your documents!

5. Now you're ready to Use the templates!

Usage

- Once you've got the following in your folder:
    1. your Markdown files
    2. the Makefile from this repo
    3. (optional) a `bibliography.bib` BibTeX file
- Then, open a terminal in the folder and type **one** of the following commands based on what kind of output you want:

```
make beamer
make beamer_bib
make html
make html_bib
make manuscript
make manuscript_bib
make manuscript_double
make manuscript_double_bib
```

- Note: Just to be clear, this builds every Markdown file in the directory where the Makefile is run **into a single resulting document**.

BibTeX usage

- The "recipes" that end in `_bib` mean that BibTeX will be also be run. However, if you want BibTeX support, be aware:
    1. you need to include a `bibliography.bib` file in the current folder, and
    2. the build process will **fail** if you do not have a file of that type present.

Customization / styling

If you want to see where and what I've stylized, including where you can easily make your own changes, search the template files for the string "ya-pandoc-template".

Acknowledgements

- This would have been impossible without some great blog posts on using Pandoc for academia:
  - http://kieranhealy.org/blog/archives/2014/01/23/plain-text/
  - http://jeromyanglim.blogspot.com/2012/07/beamer-pandoc-markdown.html
  - I'm definitely forgetting some, but virtually none of the original implementation of this is original. This is NOT MY ORIGINAL IDEA.

- If you want a much more serious, feature-rich approach to this kind of thing (or are frustrated by the limitations of this), I suggest the Pandoc fork ScholDoc which is the engine for ScholarlyMarkdown.

Postscript

This supersedes my earlier Acadoc method.